MEMORANDUM

May 7, 2013

TO:        Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM:      Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor

SUBJECT:   Appointment of Distinguished Service Professors

Action Requested

The proposed resolution appoints the faculty members listed below to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor at the State University of New York campus indicated.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the State University of New York Board of Trustees has proudly established a historic tradition of acknowledging and honoring extraordinary faculty achievement through appointment to Distinguished Faculty Rank; and

Whereas the appointment to Distinguished Faculty Rank at the state-operated campuses is both a system-wide distinction and a promotion in rank; and

Whereas the SUNY Board of Trustees and Chancellor Zimpher and the State University’s executive leadership wish to extend SUNY’s highest tribute to the Community Colleges in recognition of the extraordinary contributions and achievements of faculty in this sector; and

Whereas the SUNY Board of Trustees has the authority to bestow system-wide distinctions; now, therefore be it
Resolved that each faculty member listed below be, and hereby is, promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor at the state-operated campus indicated, effective May 7, 2013:

Professor W. Bruce Leslie, SUNY Brockport
Professor Lynn Mather, University at Buffalo
Professor Peter M. McGinnis, SUNY Cortland
Professor Audree A. Bendo, Downstate Medical Center
Professor Richard C. Smardon, SUNY-ESF
Professor Kenneth B. Andrews, SUNY Potsdam

and, be it further,

Resolved that each faculty member listed below, hereby is, appointed as Distinguished Service Professor as an honorific distinction at the campus indicated, effective May 7, 2013:

Professor Lori Maida, Westchester Community College

Background

The Distinguished Service Professorship honors and recognizes extraordinary service. Candidates must have demonstrated substantial distinguished service not only at the campus and the State University, but also at the community, regional and State levels. Further, many candidates for appointment have rendered influential service contributing at the national and international levels.

To be considered appropriate, service must exceed the work generally considered to be a part of a candidate’s basic professional work and should include service that exceeds that for which professors are normally compensated. It must also extend over multiple years and, very importantly, must involve the application of intellectual skills drawing from the candidate’s scholarly and research interests to issues of public concern. The following encapsulates their accomplishments:

Professor W. Bruce Leslie – Dr. Leslie’s extraordinary service to the State University of New York culminates a career-long commitment to his scholarly discipline – the history of higher education – and the universities he is connected to. He has worked tirelessly to highlight the history and significance of the College at Brockport; his efforts include organization of the College’s archival record, two symposia, and a book on its history. Professor
Leslie also led efforts to record and celebrate the SUNY system’s important contributions; this includes co-planning the 2009 conference, “Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of SUNY” and co-editing the resulting book, *SUNY and the Promise of Higher Education*. He has been particularly effective organizing and energizing alumni. Dr. Leslie’s services have benefitted other colleges in the SUNY system, the Brockport overseas program at Brunel University in London, and his Alma Mater, Princeton University. In 1996-1997, Dr. Leslie served as a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Aarhus University in Denmark; he has had a regular appointment as visiting scholar at Cambridge University; he has established a fruitful relationship between Brockport and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

**Professor Lynn Mather** – Professor Mather is an internationally recognized scholar of socio-legal studies and public law, and has had a long and distinguished academic career that spans four decades. Through this remarkable period, she has demonstrated exceptional scholarly output woven into the fabric of public service and excellent teaching. It is Professor Mather’s service to the nation and the world—in the context of her scholarship and intellectual disciplines—that truly stands out. At UB, this distinguished service is exemplified by her role as Director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy from 2002-2008 as well as by her ongoing leadership in helping shape an innovative, interdisciplinary paradigm for scholarly research and collaboration. Internationally, she has likewise been a tireless champion of interdisciplinary work. She rose to the pinnacle of the Law and Society Association, being elected as the organization’s president—an honor reserved for the highest levels of service and scholarship. Dr. Mather continues to be among the top figures in this important scholarly association, shaping its intellectual pursuits and mentoring younger colleagues in the field.

**Professor Peter M. McGinnis** – Dr. McGinnis is an expert in the biomechanics of pole vaulting. He is a prolific researcher and presenter. Professor McGinnis’ service at SUNY Cortland includes co-chairing the College Research Committee and chairing the School of Professional Studies Personnel Committee, the College Curriculum Review Committee, and the Graduate Faculty Executive Committee. He has served as the volunteer coach of the SUNY Cortland vaulters since 1990. Dr. McGinnis is the biomechanist for the pole vault event for USA Track and Field. He has provided biomechanical analyses to elite U.S. pole vaulters, Olympic champions, and their coaches since 1983. He has led pole vault clinics for beginning vaulters throughout Central New York and the nation. He has been a biomechanics consultant and an expert witness in several pole vault accident litigations. Dr. McGinnis is a national leader in the improvement of pole vault safety. Since 2005, he has chaired the American Society for Testing and Materials-International (ASTM) F08.67 Pole Vault Equipment Subcommittee that develops standards for pole vault equipment.
Professor Audree A. Bendo – Dr. Bendo has been an esteemed member of Downstate's faculty since 1985. Her roles in the Department of Anesthesiology include Executive Vice Chair, Vice Chair for Education, and Residency Program Director. A prominent authority in Neuroanesthesiology, she has over 35 publications in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks. Similarly, she has presented over 135 invitational lectures at professional assemblies worldwide. Her academic expertise has been recognized by the New York State Education Department, via her appointment to their Advisory Committee on Long-Term Clinical Clerkships. Dr. Bendo tirelessly labors for numerous academic and hospital committees at Downstate and contributes to diverse professional organizations, like the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, where she is Vice Chair of the Post Graduate Assembly's Scientific Program, and as Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee for the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Her commitment to excellence has molded and amplified the education and professional development of Downstate's Anesthesia residents, fellows, and faculty. Her devoted service to her field, to teaching and to scholarly pursuits, raises the bar for state-of-the-art medical education while advancing superlative patient care.

Professor Richard C. Smardon – Dr. Smardon has an outstanding record of service to the university, his professional colleagues and the community, both locally and beyond. In more than three decades with the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF), Professor Smardon has served as a full professor for more than 15 years, also acting as Co-Director of the SUNY Great Lakes Research Consortium, Co-Director of ESF's Division of Environmental Science, Director of ESF's Graduate Program in Environmental Science, chair of the Department of Environmental Studies, and director of the Randolph G. Pack Environmental Institute. Professor Smardon’s record encompasses sustained, effective service at every level: national and international, state-wide and local. He serves his students and professional organizations, and partners with an array of colleagues, sharing his expertise with organizations and agencies working to solve environmental challenges. His scholarly expertise and commitment to his profession and the university are a testament to his outstanding record of service to the ESF campus, SUNY, and the world beyond the university.

Professor Kenneth B. Andrews – As a faculty member at The Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, Professor Andrews has attained national and international recognition primarily for his unparalleled work as founder, conductor, and musical director of the Orchestra of Northern New York (ONNY); a regional, professional symphony orchestra formed in 1988 and based in Potsdam, NY. ONNY is comprised of musicians from the Crane Artist/Faculty, Northeastern U.S., Canadian musicians from Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto, and from the Student Apprenticeship Program (exceptional Crane students chosen by audition). ONNY performs seven pairs of concerts yearly and has presented several hundred concerts throughout Northern NY
and Southern Canada since its inception. He has been a guest conductor with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Vermont Symphony, and as Music Director and guest conductor for professional, college, and youth orchestras and festivals throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe and has been featured on public radio and television. During his tenure at Crane, Andrews has maintained one of the most successful studios with students receiving numerous achievements including assistantships and fellowships at premiere graduate institutions in the U.S. as well as winning national competitions, positions in major orchestras and teaching in universities and music education positions. As a flutist, Mr. Andrews performed as Associate Principal Flute with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and has been Principal and Guest Principal with several other orchestras and festivals.

Professor Lori Maida – Dr. Maida has established a noteworthy record of service to her students, department, division, College, SUNY and the community. Her work with the Global Scholars Program at Westchester Community College has resulted in many community service projects between students and community agencies, and the people of Westchester County. Over five years her students have created twenty-nine projects, each one important in topic and scope. Dr. Maida has been an outstanding asset to her department, creating new courses including on-line offerings and bringing a scholarly outlook to each of her courses. Her students learn research techniques and bring their proposals to successful conclusions under her tutelage. Her oversight of the Beacon Conferences designed to offer students opportunities to present their research in a public forum, has been part of her dedication to scholarship, which she continued by bringing students to the Showcase of Student work seen in Albany by the legislators and others. A role model for women’s accomplishments, she guided the College through a number of Women’s History Month activities, bringing well-known featured speakers to address the public sessions during the month’s activities. Her connections on editorial boards, has helped to shape and modify undergraduate sociology teaching and learning. She keeps her teaching and research current within her discipline and engages students whose work with her has helped them to gain admission to prestigious colleges and universities.

It is my pleasure to present the faculty members named in this resolution to the Board of Trustees for its approval. A copy of the President’s letter for each professor is attached. The letter highlights the individual’s service and major career achievements, and provides the campus rationale for recommending appointment. The full dossier is available in the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost.

Attachments